

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a copied international mobile equipment identity in a mobile system in which at least one international mobile subscriber identity and a mobile equipment identity is associated with a mobile station, the method comprising

(i) creating a database containing records which each contain a mobile equipment identity associated with a mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity,

(ii) the mobile station first transmitting the mobile equipment identity associated with the mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity,

(iii) checking whether there is a record in the database, which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity transmitted by the mobile station, and

(iv) if there is a record in the database, checking whether the record includes a mobile subscriber identity corresponding to the mobile subscriber identify transmitted by the mobile station, and, if there is no record in the database, producing at least a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the database contains a record which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity transmitted by the mobile station, but whose mobile subscriber identity does not correspond to that transmitted by the mobile station, the operation of the mobile station is prevented.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step (iii) is performed when the mobile station registers into the mobile system.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step (iii) is performed when the mobile station updates its location.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 2, wherein step (iii) is performed at predefined intervals.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the database is created in the home location register.

7. (Currently Amended) A mobile system comprising
means for receiving an international mobile equipment identity and at least one international mobile subscriber identity from at least one mobile station,
a database containing records, each containing a mobile equipment identity associated with a mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity,
first means for checking whether the database contains a record which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity first transmitted by the mobile station, but whose mobile subscriber identity does not correspond to that transmitted by the mobile station, and
second means responsive to the first means to produce a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one.

8. (Previously Presented) A mobile system as claimed in claim 7, comprising means responsive to the first means for preventing the use of the mobile station.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An element of a mobile network comprising
means for receiving an international mobile equipment identity and at least one international mobile subscriber identity from at least one mobile station,
means for requesting at least one international mobile subscriber identity from a database on the basis of the international mobile equipment identity received from at least one mobile station, said database containing records, each record containing a mobile equipment identity associated with a mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity,

first means for checking, whether the international mobile subscriber identity corresponds to the international mobile subscriber identity first transmitted by the mobile station, and

second means responsive to the first means to produce, if the international mobile subscriber identity does not correspond to the international mobile subscriber identity transmitted by the mobile station, at least a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one.

11. (Previously Presented) An element as claimed in claim 10, wherein the database is located within the element.